

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 22-29 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 17 and 19 are amended. New claims 30-73 are presented. The new claims depend directly or indirectly from amended claims 17 and 19. The claims are supported by the application as originally filed. No new matter is added.

Claims 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as not being enabled. Applicant traverses the rejection to the extent that it can be maintained.

Although claims 25-27 are cancelled, Applicants offer the following comments should there be a similar concern with the amended or new claims. The Office Action states that the specification "does not reasonably provide enablement for bonding glass applied between constraining layer and dielectric body AND bonding glass in at least one of the dielectric layers and constraining layer." Applicants refer to paragraph [0050] of the application which describes bonding glass between the dielectric layer and the constraining layer AND that during sintering bonding glass melts and diffuses into the dielectric layer. Also, the compositions of the dielectric layer and constraining layer may include a glass component (paragraphs [0036-0042]). Therefore, in view of this description, Applicants respectfully submit that a person of ordinary skill would be enabled to practice the invention commensurate in scope with the pending claims.

Claims 1-9, 11-16, 22 and 24-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and being unpatentable over Knickerbocker et al. (US 6,607,620) in view of Sakai (US 6,488,795) and Flaitz et al. (US 5,130,067). Applicants traverse the rejection to the extent that it can be maintained.

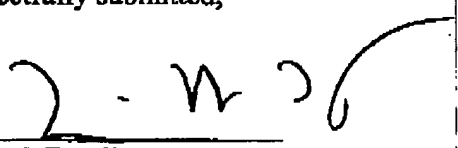
Claims 1-16 and 22-29 are cancelled.

Dependent claims 17-21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 17 and 19, as amended, are independent claims including all of the limitations of the original claims. Applicants believe that these claims are patentable over the art of record.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

10 July 2006
Date


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